

Date: Fri, 11 Nov 94 03:38:40 PST  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: List  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #1206  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Fri, 11 Nov 94                      Volume 94 : Issue 1206

Today's Topics:

### About 2nd hand rigs, user manuals & copyright laws...  
1750 meters?  
FCC Busts?  
I just failed the Tech test!!  
Instant Track in a window  
Is it just me?  
Line voltage in Australia  
Morse Code and Age?  
Motorola Amateur Group???  
No-Code Techs & CW (again) (2 msgs)  
No code Techs and CW...  
Procedure for calling Mir/Shuttle help needed  
R.S. 2 Meter Amplifie  
What's your favorite key? (2 msgs)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: Fri, 11 Nov 94 00:54:15 -0500  
From: armond@delphi.com  
Subject: ### About 2nd hand rigs, user manuals & copyright laws...

Reality check! What manufacturer is going to bring a copyright infringement  
suit because someone photocopied the manual for the purchaser? Don't give  
it a second thought, photocopy away for the new owner.

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Date: Thu, 10 Nov 1994 22:23:30 GMT  
From: dmunroe@vcd.hp.com (Dave Munroe)  
Subject: 1750 meters?

Recently I learned that the FCC allows unlicensed transmissions under 1 watt on 1750 meters. This is 160 - 190 kHz.

Apparently power companies and something called GWEN use this band, but who else? What's the best propagation you could hope for on a longwave band like that at those power levels?

As luck would have it, I remember \_CQ\_ had an article about 1750 meters some time ago and I passed it by. I believe they even had a transmitter schematic.

-Dave

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-----v-----
| Dave Munroe          |      xx7xxx   Tech+HF, just another  QRP  DX  addict  |
| dmunroe@vcd.hp.com   |                                     (awaiting license) |
|-----|
|               Whatever happened to kilocycles and condensers?               |
|-----|
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Date: 10 Nov 1994 14:23:09 GMT  
From: robertp@meaddata.com (Robert Penrod)  
Subject: FCC Busts?

> FCC agents backed up with Federal Marshalls

There is only one "l" in Marshal when speaking on U.S. Marshals. They would only assist if ordered by the Courts.

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|Robert D. Penrod      |      Excess on occasion is      | I only speak for myself.
|Mead Data Central    |      Exhilarating               |
|P.O. Box 933         | It prevents moderation from    |      robertp@meaddata.com
|Dayton, Ohio 45401   | acquiring the deadening        | ...!uunet!meaddata!robertp
|                     |      effect of a habit.         |
|-----|
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Date: 10 Nov 1994 19:49:38 GMT  
From: jdc2@acpub.duke.edu (J. D. Carter)  
Subject: I just failed the Tech test!!

In article <39toje\$p4o@gerald.cc.utexas.edu>  
oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu (Derek Wills) writes:

> Does anyone have statistics on the pass/fail rate for the Tech test?  
> All I ever see is postings by people who pass it, which statistically  
> means that everyone passes it the first time - is this true?

Well, I failed the tech test the first time, too. I just handed them  
another \$5 and took it again. :)

I don't think that people post their failures too often since they  
can't boast about it (what else is news for? \*grin\* ). I'd just do what  
everyone else does and keep on studying until you can get it.

Good luck!  
Josh Carter - N5SKQ

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\_/\_/\_/ "So one night I was lying in bed staring up at the stars \\_\\_\\_  
\_/\_/ and I wondered..... Where the HELL is my ceiling?!?" \\_\\_\\_

J. D. Carter - jdc2@acpub.duke.edu

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Date: 9 Nov 1994 21:46:59 -0600  
From: den@garnet.msen.com (Dave New)  
Subject: Instant Track in a window

Wayne,

If you are not running IT in a graphics mode, you should be able to get it  
to run by pulling down the system menu and picking Settings... This will open  
a dialog box, where you can check the box marked "background". This will allow  
IT to run even if it does not have the input focus at the moment. This will  
last only for the current invocation of IT in that DOS box. If you want this  
to happen automagically, you will need to use the PIF editor to set up a new  
.pif file that describes the command line you need to run IT, the start-up  
directory (i.e. the directory IT was installed in), and then you can check the  
background box. Save the .pif as it.pif (for instance) and then you can create  
an icon for it by using the File New item in the Program Manager system menu.

Start IT using the icon that is associated with the .pif (or by starting the

.pif), rather than running it.exe directly. This will use the settings in the .pif, rather than guessing (usually badly) about how you want to run IT.

I've found that trying to do this with IT running in graphics mode is usually no good, as Windows doesn't like a DOS process attempting to re-program the color palette registers in high-res mode, or some such. It usually suspends the program, and won't start it again unless you run full-screen mode for that DOS program. I've heard that some folks have had better luck with some 3rd party display drivers, but my Fahrenheit 1280 board doesn't seem to be so lucky 8-).

I've found it real handy to turn on the bottom line of 'favorite' satellites and move the window to the bottom of the screen, then let it peek out from under the program manager window while running other stuff...

Good luck,

Dave, WB4SBE/8, wb4sbe@amsat.org

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Date: Thu, 10 Nov 1994 16:36:37 GMT  
From: dickrb@lsid.hp.com (Dick Bingham)  
Subject: Is it just me?

No, you are NOT alone. I too wonder how much longer the excellent hobby of ham radio can last now that the skills and knowledge that use to be required to obtain a license have been reduced to that required to "operate" a door-bell.

One must observe that the amount of surplus radio equipment available to those who would 'tinker' and build their own equipment is markedly reduced in quantity and simplicity. Surplus radio gear now is either highly digital, complex (harder to make it do something useful) or some computer hardware that isn't really useful to some 'kid' who is trying to make something.

I think we need to raise the entry level skills and really TEST for evidence of these skills. I am really saddened by much of what I read in the 'mags', here on the I.N., and what I hear on the air these days.

I really expect that we will soon lose the remaining freq's we presently have to commercial users (at least there is some intelligence evident in the their transmissions) and ham radio will be reduced to mobile or base station use of hand-held TELEPHONES ! That is about ALL of the skill level remaining in the hobby or in the direction it is going.

I worked hard to enter ham radio and flunked my first novice code test.

I passed all of the code tests thru 20wpm the hard way by showing true proficiency (sp) by copying and sending 1 minute w/o errors and really studied to learn the theory necessary to earn an extra class rating.

Every baby learns to walk by trial and error and most of us walk today! Lets start expecting more instead of less knowledge of those who would join this wonderful hobby.

73 de w7wkr -- dick

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Date: Fri, 11 Nov 1994 02:35:39 GMT  
From: alanb@hpnmarb.sr.hp.com (Alan Bloom)  
Subject: Line voltage in Australia

wbdown@skcla.monsanto.com (wbdown@skcla.monsanto.com) wrote:  
: If the voltage in Australia is 230/240 vac, why can't you simply  
: split the circuit into two 115/120 vac circuits? ie. is the  
: voltage between a hot leg and ground 115/120 vac and the voltage  
: between each hot leg 230/240 vac?

I believe Australia is like Europe in that the 240V is not balanced with respect to ground. i.e. one wire is 240VAC and the other wire is 0 V.

AL N1AL

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Date: Thu, 10 Nov 1994 21:00:58 GMT  
From: dmunroe@vcd.hp.com (Dave Munroe)  
Subject: Morse Code and Age?

Gary Coffman wrote:

>Dogs can be conditioned to respond to Morse code...

But will they send QSL cards?

-Dave

,-----  
| -----v-----  
| Dave Munroe | xx7xxx Tech+HF, just another QRP DX addict |  
| dmunroe@vcd.hp.com | |  
(awaiting license)

| You know you've been studying code too long when you automatically try to |  
decode random clicks and rattles inside your house, car, or office.

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Date: Wed, 09 Nov 1994 12:03:00 -0800  
From: john.hiatt@alley.com (John Hiatt)  
Subject: Motorola Amateur Group???

>there's effectively no amateur market when you look at the size of other  
>markets --- look at the number of cell radiophones sold in your town this  
>month vs the number of new hams nationwide this year and i'll bet the cell  
>radiophones come out on top.

Really? I wonder where I fit into this? I am newly licensed this year,  
Bought a new amateur radio, and bought a cell phone. Got the cell phone  
mainly for work (pizza delivery) and am tired of wrong addresses and the  
car breaking down in the middle of nowhere. Our delivery area is  
basically in the middle of nowhere.

John KC7DRI

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\* OLX 2.1 TD \* Press "+" to see another tagline.

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{=====}-{}  
| /_/_/  Origin   : Norton's Alley BBS \_\_\ |  
| \/_/\  Location: Hayden Lake, ID.   /\_\/ |  
| /_/_/  BBS      : (208) 772-6218     \_\_\ |  
{=====}-{}  
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Date: 10 Nov 1994 06:06:25 -0500  
From: jmbouche@unix.amherst.edu (JOSEPH M BOUCHER)  
Subject: No-Code Techs & CW (again)

I've been out of hamming for 20 years, after spending many a pleasant  
evening in my youth working the world on 1/2 watt CW as WA1ZJB. The  
license lapsed, marriage and jobs and life took over, and now 20 years  
later I'm getting re-licensed. Last month I tested, attained Advanced  
theory and 20-wpm code, and will do the Extra exam in January, after I  
get my call letters and some operating time.  
Those of you out there who are Generals or Advanced or Extras know that  
upgrading is not a matter of just memorizing some pool questions out of a  
Gordon West book (as good as those books are, they are meant to be a guide,  
not a primary source, and they are excellent guides). Reaching higher grades

in Amateur Radio is the same as progressing in any other activity, whether you're a painter or a piano player. It takes commitment and work and most important, it takes a lot of time.

Amateur radio has certainly changed in 20 years. You won't find people sending 110-baud Baudot from a KSR33, a far smaller percentage of hams build their own gear, and the membership is far more diverse than ever. I for one am happy to see the institution of No-Code Tech as a way for people to get involved in hamming a step at a time. 25 years ago it was much harder to find hams who didn't work in electronics or technology fulltime, so that getting licensed was mostly code study and rules&regs. Today many more hams are real estate agents, truck drivers, English majors, computer users, people who see the value of ham radio but don't have the advantage of a great deal of technical experience. It's much more realistic for those people to be able to study one thing at a time, test one area at a time. First the Tech license, then some code, upgrade, some HF work, upgrade some more. I for one welcome those No-Codes into Amateur radio, and I hope that most of them are able to find the time to learn the code and more advanced theory

I don't believe the code should be eliminated as a requirement for upgrade. Too much great activity still revolves around code, as anyone who scans HF knows. It is not anachronistic, and I don't think it will be until the rest of the world is able to spend as much money on their gear as we in this country do. We are privileged to have so much disposable income and so much superb technology to spend on what for most hams is a hobby. I would miss the opportunity to communicate with those stations in Africa and Asia and the areas of the world where so many hams still are forced to rely on low power, low tech machines. In reading Part 97 during my license prep, I was struck by the number of times the words Amateur Radio SERVICE were used. Not once was it referred to as Hobby Radio.

There's a place in Amateur Radio for everyone. If No-Code privileges suit your needs, great. If you want more, like any other activity, the opportunity is there. Take it a step at a time, take advantage of all the help available out there, and get wherever you want to go. Good luck to all.

If you've read this far, you have more patience than the topic deserves.

Thanks,

Joe Boucher

Certified-but-haven't-received-license-yet (rats - it didn't come today...)

South Hadley, MA

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Date: Thu, 10 Nov 94 10:07:27 -0500

From: brunelli\_pc@delphi.com

Subject: No-Code Techs & CW (again)

JOSEPH M BOUCHER <jmbouche@unix.amherst.edu> writes:

>There's a place in Amateur Radio for everyone. If No-Code privileges suit  
>your needs, great. If you want more, like any other activity, the  
>opportunity is there. Take it a step at a time, take advantage of all the  
>help available out there, and get wherever you want to go. Good luck to all.  
>

Joe,

Thanks for refueling my beleif that hamming is as good as i think it is!  
I worked my butt off for my extra, and still hear about how i am living  
proof that it is easier now! (tech to extra in 10 months). Where were  
these doubters when i was hacking three 20 minute CW sessions a day to  
hit 13wpm, and 2 a day for 20. Doubtlessly sitting on their rump grunting  
about the demise of "their" hobby.

As much as the pop sound-bites may offend,....

JUST DO IT!

73 and thanks for the intelligent post.

pete brunelli  
n1qdq

p.s. when you want a sked just drop a line and i'll do it

brunelli\_pc@delphi.com

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Date: 10 Nov 1994 05:41:47 GMT  
From: Cecil\_A\_Moore@ccm.ch.intel.com  
Subject: No code Techs and CW...

In article <58agVc3w165w@voxbox.norden1.com>,  
Jim Grubs, W8GRT <jgrubs@voxbox.norden1.com> wrote:  
>

>Nothing intrinsically wrong with Q&A pools if the pool is large enough  
>that it is impossible to memorize ALL of it.

By Golly Jim, I think you're on to something. Let's also make the Morse  
code pool large enough that it is impossible to memorize ALL of it.

--

73, Cecil, KG7BK, 00TC (All my own personal fuzzy logic, not Intel's)

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John KC7DRI

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\* OLX 2.1 TD \* Unable to locate Coffee -- Operator Halted!

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{=====}- {=====}  
| /_/_/  Origin   : Norton's Alley BBS \_\_\ |  
| \/_/\  Location: Hayden Lake, ID.   /\_\/ |  
| /_/_/  BBS      : (208) 772-6218     \_\_\ |  
{=====}- {=====}
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Date: Thu, 10 Nov 1994 00:06:43 GMT  
From: jp11@vectorbd.com (Jim Lill)  
Subject: What's your favorite key?

In article <CyzC1D.FsF@vectorbd.com>, rkm@vectorbd.com wrote:

> Since XMas is coming up (-) I'm looking for recommendations on keys -  
> both paddles and bugs. Any suggestions on what your preferred key is,  
> for around \$100.00?

I have a Jones that I bought as a kit for \$75. While I'm hardly a CW buff,  
my "40 wpm" friends all drool so I guess it's FB!

Rich: since you're local, I have it at wb2psi right now (SS leftover) if  
you wanna "try b4 u buy"

--

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~~~~~  
Jim Lill / Vector Board BBS \  
jp11@vectorbd.com \ 716-544-1863/2645 /  
wa2zkd@wb2psi.#wny.usa.na GENie: ZKD
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Date: Fri, 11 Nov 1994 02:33:28 GMT  
From: alanb@hpnmarb.sr.hp.com (Alan Bloom)  
Subject: What's your favorite key?

rkm@vectorbd.com wrote:

> What's your favorite key?

C sharp minor.

(Doncha love a wise guy?)

AL N1AL

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Date: 10 Nov 1994 20:24:20 GMT

From: dennisg@microware.com (Dennis Gabler)

References<CyzC1D.FsF@vectorbd.com> <39t5ng\$etu@mcrware.microware.com>,  
<1994Nov10.165640.12063@galileo.cc.rochester.edu>

Subject: Re: What's your favorite key?

In <1994Nov10.165640.12063@galileo.cc.rochester.edu> rdewan@uhura.cc.rochester.edu  
(Rajiv Dewan) writes:

>In article <39t5ng\$etu@mcrware.microware.com> dennisg@microware.com (Dennis  
Gabler) writes:

>>

>>I prefer the Bencher, it is compact and has a light touch.

>>

>Einbau Wabblers - This is a mini-paddle from Germany that I use for mobile  
> operation. I have it mounted on a leg clamp and it works very  
> well.

Yow! I'm doing good to walk and talk at the same time ;-)

--

Dennis Gabler                   FF-1/EMT-D  
dennisg@mcrware.com           KB5HVN/0

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Date: 10 Nov 1994 08:35:48 -0800

From: kchen@apple.com (Kok Chen)

References<39779u\$9d3@gerald0.cc.utexas.edu> <1994Nov3.022306.5720@mixcom.com>,  
<CypE9n.7E@wang.com>

Subject: Re: Maws Coad and Spelinge

dbushong@wang.com (Dave Bushong) writes:

>kevin jessup <kevin.jessup@mixcom.mixcom.com> writes:

>>In <39779u\$9d3@gerald0.cc.utexas.edu> oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu (Derek Wills)  
writes:



test is irrelevant to them, and it is mere hazing for those who do \*not\* wish to use Morse. In 1991 according to the ARRL survey that was 62% of all amateurs who had passed a Morse test. So the Morse test is irrelevant to the 38% of amateurs who use Morse, and is hazing for the 62% who do not.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

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Date: Wed, 9 Nov 94 22:40:28 -0500

From: wcoyle@delphi.com

References<784300462snz@microvst.demon.co.uk> <x4xUD34.wcoyle@delphi.com>,  
<39qoej\$ic5@news.iastate.edu>

Subject: Re: Maws Coad and Spelinge

This is true, but the code test has become easier to pass over the years. First it was a send and receive test. Then they went to just a receive test. Then they had a fill in the blank test. Now it's a multiple choice test (the one I took) I think by softening the way the testing is done has made it easier for those who lack the code skill, to pass the test. As for veto status, I still have mixed feelings. I think the hobby as a whole would benefit more from a greater understanding of electronics and operations, than the ability to do code. But the code test offers a balance. Some people are a quick study on book stuff. Others are good with a skill.

Perhaps the option of another written test instead of the code?

I don't know, I still have mixed feelings.

73

Wcoyle@delphi.com

Bill

N30GH

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End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #1206

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